

## Message Text

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ACTION AF-10

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 NEA-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-04

H-01 INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01

SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 AID-05 EB-07 TRSE-00 XMB-02

CU-02 AGR-05 /099 W

-----091101Z 092826 /20

R 090855Z MAY 77

FM AMEMBASSY BANJUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4332

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMEMBASSY LONDON

AMEMBASSY TRIPOLI

C O N F I D E N T I A L BANJUL 0661

DAKAR PASS ADO

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR GA LY

SUBJECT: LIBYAN MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS VISITS THE GAMBIA

1. LIBYAN MINISTER OF COMMUNICATIONS, NURI EL-MADANI, LED 11-MAN DELEGATION ON VISIT TO THE GAMBIA, APRIL 27-MAY 3. AHMED WADDA, GAMBIA AMBASSADOR TO TRIPOLI TOLD CHARGE VISIT WAS IN NATURE ANNUAL EXCHANGE ON BILATERAL RELATIONS, AND PRINCIPALLY CONCERNED WITH LIBYAN AID TO THE GAMBIA. A DOCUMENT WAS SIGNED IN BANJUL APRIL 30, APPROVING A NUMBER OF PROJECTS. AGREEMENT WAS REACHED FOR LIBYAN FINANCING OF ENGINEERING STUDIES FOR NORTH BANK ROAD, KEREWAN TO LAMIN KOTO (OPPOSITE GEORGETOWN) TO FATOTO. STUDY WILL BE DONE BY DUTCH FIRM. ACCORDING TO "NEWS BULLETIN," GAMBIANS REQUESTED THREE ROAD CONSTRUCTION AND MAINTENANCE UNITS, BUT LIBYANS AGREED TO FUND ONLY ONE. LIBYANS ALSO AGREED TO FINANCE CONSTRUCTION OF NEW BANJUL MOSQUE, AND MAKE FURTHER DOLS 100,000 CAPITAL CONTRIBUTION TO JOINT GAMBIA-LIBYAN BUS COMPANY. "NEWS BULLETIN" ALSO REPORTED THAT IMPROVED FACILITIES FOR CULTURAL EXCHANGE WERE DISCUSSED.

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2. SEC GEN GOTG CHRISTENSEN TOLD CHARGE PRIVATELY THAT LIBYANS ARE "VERY DIFFICULT" TO DEAL WITH. HE ACKNOWLEDGED PROGRESS ON LIBYAN SUPPORT FOR PROJECTS ABOVE, WHICH HAVE RECEIVED MEDIA PUBLICITY. HOWEVER, CHRISTENSEN DECLARED NO AGREEMENT WAS REACHED ON TWO PROPOSED PROJECTS, AGRICULTURAL CREDIT, AND JOINT SHIPPING VENTURE. LIBYANS WANT TO SET-UP AGRI-BUSINESS COMPLEX AS COOPERATIVE

VENTURE IN WHICH LIBYANS WOULD SHARE PROFITS. GAMBIANS WANT SIMPLE CREDIT FUND, FROM WHICH FARMERS COULD SEEK LOANS. LIBYANS WANT TO SET UP MULTI-NATIONAL WEST AFRICAN SHIPPING LINE TO INCLUDE SIERRA LEONE. CAMEROON, GAMBIA, AND OTHERS. GAMBIANS WANT NATIONAL SHIPPING LINE, PERHAPS INCLUDING SOME GERMAN INVESTMENT, INTO WHICH LIBYANS COULD ALSO VENTURE SOME CAPITAL. "NEWS BULLETIN" SAID "OTHER PROJECTS TO BE FINALIZED" INCLUDE FISHERIES, REPLACEMENT BANJUL TELEPHONE EXCHANGE, FERRY IMPROVEMENTS, BANJUL DOCKYARD, AND DRUG STORAGE FACILITIES.

3. LIBYAN MISSION RECEIVED MODERATE RADIO AND NEWSPAPER COVERAGE. MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS HOSTED DINNER FOR LIBYANS, AND BUS COMPANY MANAGER (BRITISH) HELD RECEPTION FOR THEM.  
WYGANT

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## Message Attributes

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**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
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**Disposition Date:** 22 May 2009  
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**To:** STATE  
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